

HB 1266 -- OFFICIAL STATE BUTTERFLY

SPONSOR: Denison

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources by a vote of 17 to 0.

This bill designates the regal fritillary, scientifically known as *Speyeria idalia*, as the official state butterfly.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will help promote tourism and the state's natural resources by highlighting a butterfly that has almost disappeared. Because the regal fritillary lives on the prairie, it can only be found in three places in Missouri. The bill recognizes the work done in the state to preserve the prairie lands.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Denison; Buck Keagy; Lisa Baker, Springfield Butterfly House; and Carol David, Missouri Prairie Foundation.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.